

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

1516 NINTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814-5512

DOCKET**06-AFC-5C**DATE OCT 12 2009RECD. OCT 12 2009

**NOTICE OF RECEIPT
PETITION TO AMEND
THE ENERGY COMMISSION DECISION for the
PANOCHÉ ENERGY CENTER PROJECT (06-AFC-5C)**

On September 21, 2009, the Panoche Energy Center, LLC, filed a petition with the California Energy Commission requesting to modify the Panoche Energy Center (PEC) Project. The 400-megawatt project was certified by the Energy Commission on December 19, 2007, and began commercial operation on July 1, 2009. The facility is located in an unincorporated area of western Fresno County, approximately 15 miles southwest of the city of Mendota.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED MODIFICATION

The modification proposed in the petition is necessary to provide for reliable disposal of PEC wastewater. This Petition seeks a solution to the inadequate performance of the four onsite wastewater injection wells. The proposed changes will use two unlined wastewater surface impoundments (UWSI) located adjacent and south of the existing PEC plant footprint, mostly within the existing PEC construction laydown area. The two new UWSI would provide a new method of disposing of wastewater by percolating it into the underlying highly degraded and unusable aquifer. The existing wastewater injection wells would remain as an alternative means of disposing of some or all of PEC's wastewater. Two additional minor changes are also proposed. First, an ultrafiltration skid will provide removal of oxidized metals and total suspended solids prior to reverse osmosis (RO) filters. Second, evaporative cooler blowdown and intercooler condensate will be redirected from the wastewater tank to the cooling tower. This change results in an increase in water efficiency and decreased source water consumption.

ENERGY COMMISSION AMENDMENT REVIEW PROCEDURES

The purpose of the Energy Commission's review process is to assess the impacts of this proposal on environmental quality, public health and safety. The review process includes an evaluation of the consistency of the proposed changes with the Energy Commission's Decision and if the project, as modified, will remain in compliance with applicable laws, ordinances, regulations, and standards (Title 20, Calif. Code of Regulations, section 1769). Energy Commission staff is currently analyzing the request and will publish an analysis in the near future. A public hearing for the purpose of approving or denying the amendment proposal will subsequently be held at a regularly scheduled Energy Commission business meeting.

This Notice of Receipt is being mailed to interested parties and property owners adjacent to the project site who may want to participate in the amendment process.

The petition is available on the Energy Commission's website at <http://www.energy.ca.gov/sitingcases/panoche/compliance/index.html>. The staff analysis (when published), will also be posted on the website. If you would like to receive a hard copy of the petition and/or staff's analysis, please complete the enclosed Information Request Form and return it to the address shown.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact Dale Rundquist, Compliance Project Manager, at (916) 651-2072, or by fax to (916) 654-3882, or via e-mail at: drundqui@energy.state.ca.us within 14 days of the date of this notice.

For further information on how to participate in this proceeding, please contact the Energy Commission Public Adviser's Office, at (916) 654-4489, or toll free in California at (800) 822-6228, or by e-mail at publicadviser@energy.state.ca.us. News media inquiries should be directed to the Energy Commission Media Office at (916) 654-4989, or by e-mail at mediaoffice@energy.state.ca.us.

Date: 10/12/09



EILEEN ALLEN, Manager
Siting and Compliance Office
Siting, Transmission & Environmental Protection
Division

Enclosure: Information Request Form

Mail List # 7206

INFORMATION REQUEST FORM

COMPLETE & MAIL TO: CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION
COMPLIANCE UNIT
ATTN: DALE RUNDQUIST
1516 NINTH STREET, MS-2000
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

OR FAX TO: (916) 654-3882

NAME AND/OR TITLE (AS IT IS TO APPEAR ON MAIL LABEL)

ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE)

STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX

CITY

STATE

ZIP CODE

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE COMMISSION DECISION TO ADD TWO UNLINED EVAPORATION WASTEWATER PONDS TO THE PANOCHÉ ENERGY CENTER PROJECT.

PLEASE CHECK THE DOCUMENTS YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE:

- ☐ PETITION TO AMEND
☐ STAFF ANALYSIS
☐ COMMISSION ORDER

PROJECT: PANOCHÉ ENERGY CENTER

DOCKET NO: 06-AFC-5C

MAIL LIST NO: 7206

☐ PLEASE REMOVE MY NAME FROM THE PANOCHÉ ENERGY CENTER PROJECT MAILING LIST